



City Councilmember Scott Sherman

District 7

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Audit Report Shows Community Planning Groups Lack Transparency

Some Planning Groups May be in Violation of Brown Act

San Diego – Audit Committee Chairman Scott Sherman convened 2019's first Audit Committee Meeting where a performance audit of San Diego's Community Planning Groups (CPGs) was released. The audit discovered that many CPGs lack transparency, have inconsistent records retention, and may not comply with the Brown Act.

CPGs are an integral component of the city's planning process and provides residents with the opportunity to give important feedback to officials on development projects, community plan updates, and rezoning among other important issues. It is important that CPGs operate effectively to ensure community feedback is received on city projects.

"Volunteers who serve on Community Planning Groups provide a vital service to their city and community," said Sherman. "It is important that city officials provide them with the proper tools and guidance to ensure the boards they serve on operate more effectively."

Other findings of the audit include:

- Renters are not adequately represented on CPG boards
- CPGs lack transparency because they are not consistently submitting or retaining documents
- Some CPG member continue to serve on boards after term limits have expired

The Audit Committee voted unanimously to forward the report to the full council with recommendations to update Council Policy 600-24 to help ensure transparency, compliance, diverse community representation and performance. Highlights of other recommendations can be found [here](#).

To review the full audit, please click [here](#). The performance audit will be item number 3 on the docket.

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